



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS

**The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of
Homeland Security and Emergency Management**
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N.H. Department of Safety photo.
Vermont Emergency Management Deputy Director Ross Nagy kicks off activities at the Nov. 29-30 tabletop exercise at Pease, the first part of the 2012 Seabrook Station Ingestion Pathway exercise sequence. Nagy served as lead facilitator for the tabletop. See story on page 2.

N.H. RECEIVES SNOWSTORM DECLARATION – President Obama has granted New Hampshire a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the Halloween snowstorm. The declaration is for Public Assistance for Hillsborough and Rockingham counties. It includes assistance for emergency protective measures, including snow plowing and the repair or replacement of public facilities. Applicant briefings for communities seeking to file claims were held on Dec. 14-15. The deadline for applications is Jan. 4, 2012. Emergency management directors or other local officials with questions about the declaration should contact their HSEM field representative.

SBA TO PROVIDE DISASTER LOANS TO NON-PROFITS – The U.S. Small Business Administration will provide low interest loans to certain Private Non-Profit Organizations (PNPs) in Hillsborough and Rockingham counties that suffered losses during the severe storms and snowstorm that occurred on Oct. 29-30, 2011. Eligible PNPs include, but are not limited to: food kitchens, homeless shelters, museums, libraries, community centers and colleges. They may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. The SBA sets the loan amounts and terms based on each applicant's financial condition.

Disaster loan information and application forms may be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or by sending an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Those affected by the disaster may also apply for disaster loans electronically from SBA's website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is Feb. 3, 2012. The deadline to return economic injury applications is Sept. 5, 2012.

SEABROOK EXERCISE SEQUENCE BEGINS – The 2012 Seabrook Station exercise sequence began Nov. 29-30 with a tabletop exercise at Pease Air National Guard Base. This will be an ingestion pathway exercise and each stage will take two days. The first day involves the 10-mile plume path. The second day involves the 50-mile ingestion path, including detailed plans for re-entry and recovery. The tabletop brought together more than 130 participants from Seabrook Station, state, federal and private sector agencies and local officials. Subgroups planned their response and recovery actions over the two day workshop and reported back to the whole group. Combined functional drills will be conducted on Jan. 24-25 and March 13-14. The graded exercise will be April 17-18.

IAC JOINS WATER PROTECTION INFORMATION EXCHANGE - On Dec. 1 the Information and Analysis Center participated in a webcast with the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The webcast was to further the discussions on the importance of collaboration between water utilities and emergency management. They outlined why this coordination is mutually beneficial and provided examples of successful coordination. In New Hampshire, the Department of Environmental Services (DES), Water Division, has ongoing efforts to promote coordination between Emergency Management Directors (EMDs) and the water sector. They encourage owners and operators of water systems to build relationships with EMDs as well as first responders. DES also conducts outreach for emergency planning and security at water facilities. DES and Homeland Security and Emergency Management have worked closely in the State Emergency Operations Center during events that affect public safety and water resources. As private sector, local and state entities enhance relationships water systems become more resilient and prepared for disasters. For further information, contact the IAC at NH.IAC@dos.nh.gov or 603-223-3859.

PREPARING FOR FUEL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS – With winter weather here, emergency management and public safety officials will likely begin to receive requests for emergency assistance from people who are running out of heating fuel. The Governor’s Office of Energy and Planning has developed protocols to help local officials respond to such requests. The first step is to assess the situation to determine if the household is out of fuel or just low on fuel, if the furnace is working, and if there are children, elderly or handicapped people in the household. In non-emergency situations, callers should be referred to the local Community Action Agency for assistance. In an emergency, especially during non-business hours, officials should contact local police to reach the town or city welfare director, move the family to an emergency shelter, or to provide five gallons of fuel to the household.

For additional information on emergency fuel assistance, contact Celeste Lovett at the Office of Energy and Planning at 271-8317 or celeste.lovett@nh.gov. Under RSA 165:1, municipalities are required to provide assistance to those residents who are unable to support themselves.

HSEM SEEKS INFORMATION FOR AFTER-ACTION REPORT – The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is gathering information to develop an official State After-Action Report (AAR) for Tropical Storm Irene and the October Snowstorm. The Information and Analysis Center (IAC) will be the lead for this combined project. The IAC will be reaching out through surveys and other means to assess how well the State Emergency Operations Center met the needs of its customers and identify areas for improvement and lessons learned. The AAR will cover the period from pre-landfall planning efforts through the response and recovery phases for both events.

If communities or state agencies have completed an AAR or some other type of assessment of their activities/response for either event, please forward them to the IAC so they can be reviewed and analyzed for common themes or other information that may be useful for the State AAR. AARs or other storm related reports should be forwarded to Fallon Reed at fallon.reed@dos.nh.gov.



Happy Holidays from N.H. Homeland Security
and Emergency Management

Keep up with emergency preparedness information in New Hampshire on www.readynh.nh.gov and [Twitter.com/ReadyNH](https://twitter.com/ReadyNH).